

North Dakota School for the Deaf

Chronological History

1890 - 2009

Prepared by
Lilia Bakken
Communications Coordinator

Format of presentation (56 slides):

1. Superintendent name and years of service
2. Average number students during tenure at NDSD
3. Communication mode used during tenure
4. Major initiatives during tenure
5. Photos of campus scenes during tenure

Note: information herein was compiled
from *NDSD Biennial Reports*

History of the North Dakota School for the Deaf



School Motto

Looking back with pride

Looking forward with confidence

Superintendent Anson Spear

1890-1895

Average number of pupils
during Spear tenure: 28

Communication:



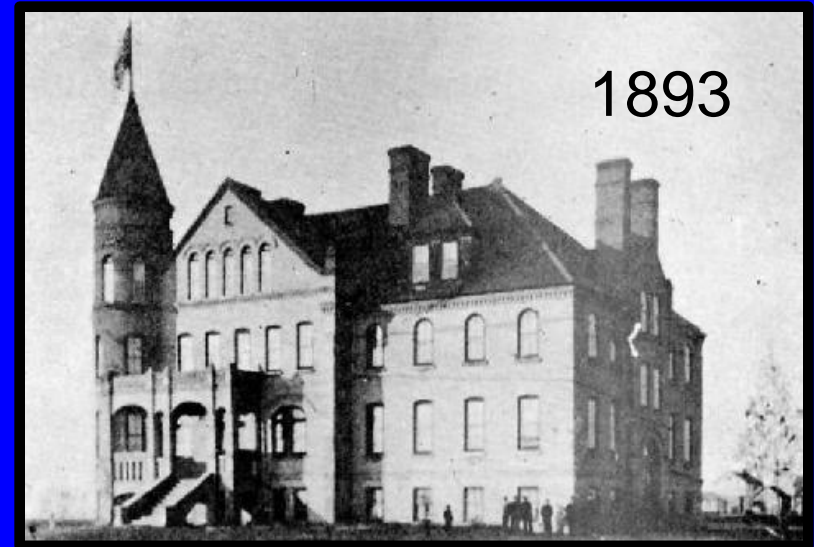
Combined method - use of signs and
manual alphabet
Use of oral methods
with pupils who showed ability

Spear tenure



- Only deaf superintendent - 1890 helped establish North Dakota School for the Deaf
- Oversaw construction of main building ready for occupancy-1893
- Implemented trade programs: farm, dairy, garden, printing, sewing and housekeeping
- Established the *Banner*, a semi-monthly newspaper printed by students
- Law passed - \$50 penalty for parents who refused to send their deaf child to school

1890-1895 scenes from campus



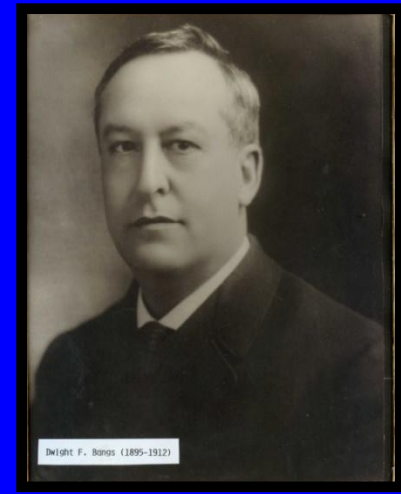
Superintendent Dwight Bangs

1895-1912

Average number of pupils
during Bangs tenure: **66**

Communication:

Combined Method: use of
signs, finger spelling, writing,
and speech, adapting their
uses with pupils as needed



The Bangs-mobile

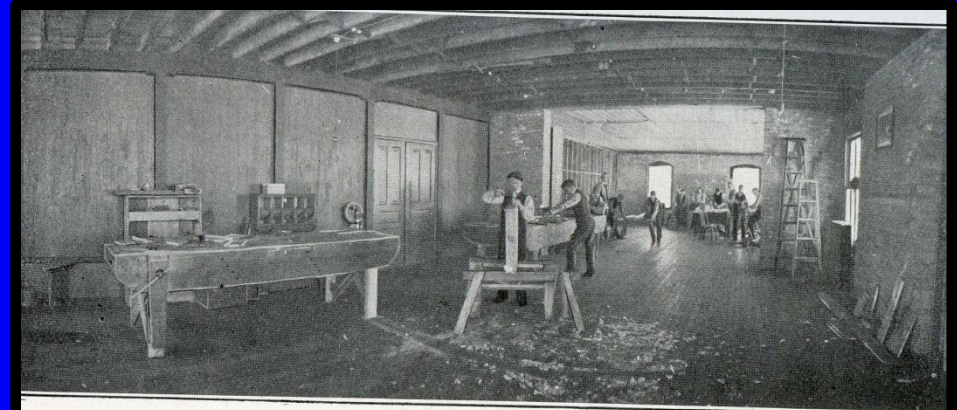
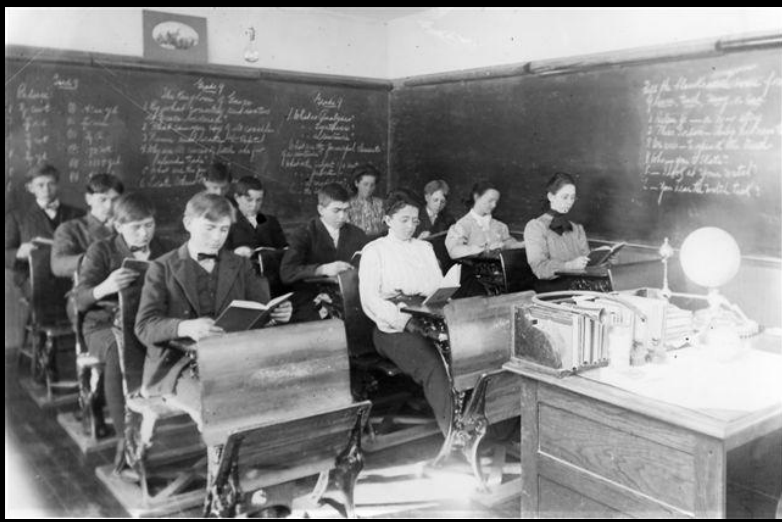


Bangs tenure

- Pupils awarded seven first prize medals at world fair for excellent exhibit of school work
- Added steam heat, sewers, electricity and fire escapes
- Construction of infirmary, barn and new school building (construction of school was not completed until 26 years later)
- Implemented carpentry class
- First class of graduates – 1900
- Lobbied for:
 - stricter laws regarding school attendance for deaf children
 - procedures for reporting deaf children from tax assessor's office to school census
 - change school name from *Deaf & Dumb Asylum* to *ND School for the Deaf and Dumb*



1895-1912 scenes from campus



CARPENTER SHOP.

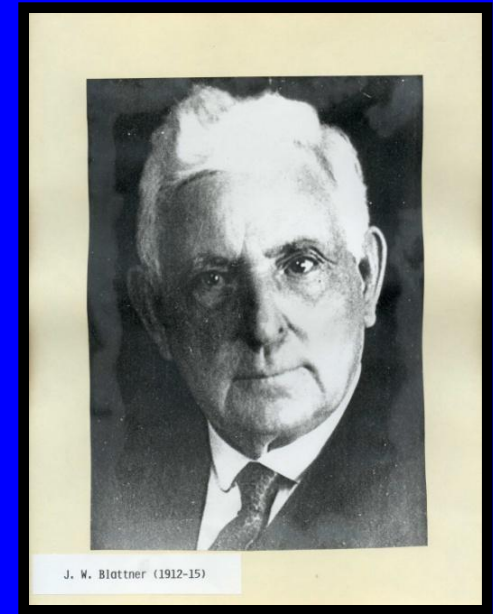


Superintendent J.W. Blattner 1912-1915

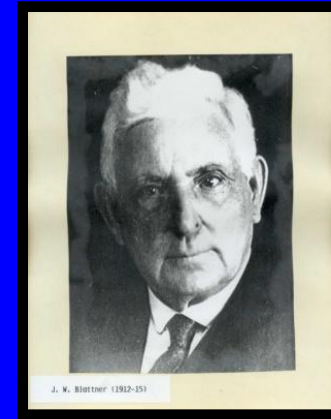
Average number of pupils
during Blattner tenure: **103**

Communication:

combined method - emphasis on **oral**
method - if pupils did not show benefit,
transferred to manual department

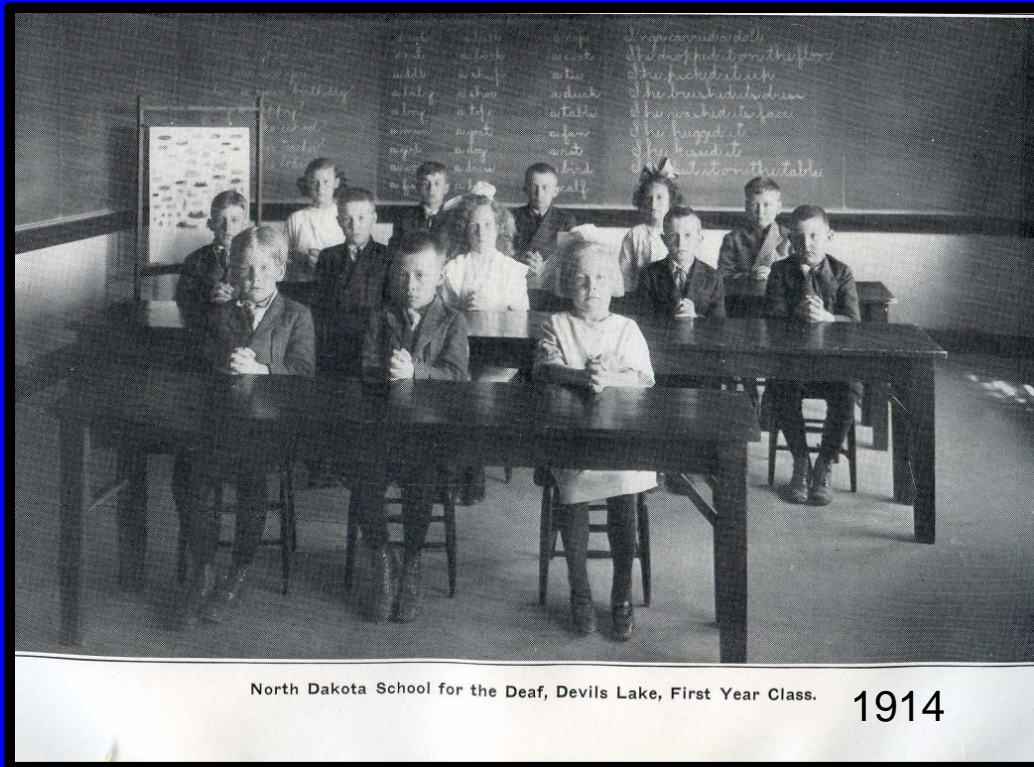


Blattner tenure



- Construction of:
 - concrete silo
 - coal storage shed
 - Pupils won state merits for art work
- Lobbied for:
 - funds for additional trade programs
 - construction of Trades building (failed)
 - source of clean drinking water

1912-1915 scenes from campus



Superintendent Frank Read 1915-1920

Average number of pupils
during Read tenure: **118**



Communication:

combined method – upon entry into school pupils placed in oral method and instructed in speech. If progress was not successful pupils transferred to manual department (1916: seven oral classes and three manual classes)

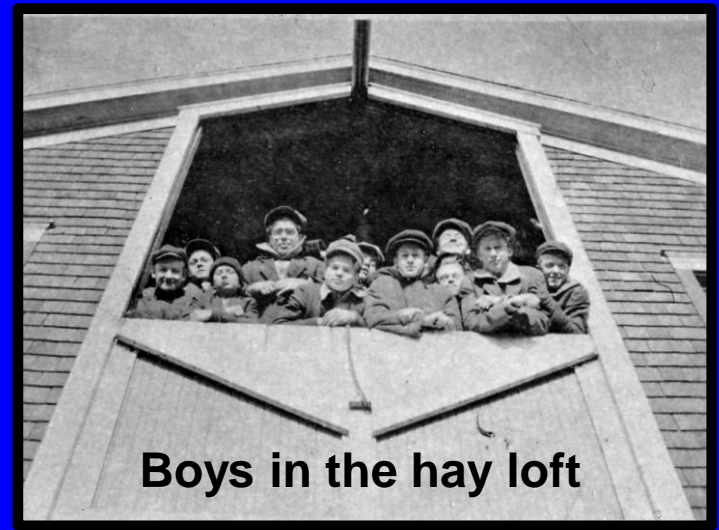
Read tenure



- Lobbied for Trades building (failed)
- Purchased new printing equipment
- Implemented cabinet making and china painting
- Initiated *lawn fete*, an elaborate outdoor program performed by pupils
- Requested funds for additional trade courses: shoe repair and cooking
- North Dakota Association of the Deaf was established (1916)

Note: Mr. Read died during his tenure - his wife assumed duties until a new superintendent was hired

1915-1920 scenes from campus



Superintendent M.C. McClure 1920-1921

Average number of pupils
during McClure tenure: **120**

Communication:

Oral method however if pupils
were unsuccessful they transferred
to manual department



McClure tenure



- Main building re-shingled by carpentry pupils and instructor
- Lobbied and obtained funds to build new boys' dormitory

1920-1921 scenes from campus



Superintendent Burton Driggs 1921-1937

Average number of pupils
during Driggs tenure: **123**



Communication:

oral method; pupils were taught speech
and lip reading

aural method; pupils were reached through
medium of the ear

manual method; use of signs and finger spelling

Driggs tenure

- Implemented new programs: barbering, nursing, beauty culture, typing, shoe repair, bookbinding, home economics, rug weaving
- Lobbied for completion of unfinished school building and need for new gymnasium
- Construction of Trades building and boys' dormitory
- Commencement pageants by pupils – thousands of people attended
- Employed trained nurse to provide health care
- Established campus pond and bridge
- Built fire proof vault to protect school records
- The *Banner* elicited high praise nation wide



1921-1937 scenes from campus



Superintendent A. P. Buchanan 1937-1945

Average number of pupils
during Buchanan tenure: **119**

Communication:

Combined method - all pupils began
in oral department and transferred
to manual department as necessary



Buchanan tenure



- 1937-1939 highest enrollment in history, 140 pupils
- Pupils presented popular outdoor revues
- Lobbied for increase in size of school and need for new gymnasium

1937-1945 scenes from campus



Superintendent Carl Smith

1945-1969

Average number of pupils
during Smith tenure: **89**



Communication:

1945 pupils taught orally until 7th grade - if progress was not made then manual communication used

1951 pupils taught orally until 5th grade

1963 *Rochester* method adopted – oral and speech reading supplemented with finger spelling

Smith tenure



- Discontinued farming operation
- Discontinued shoe repair program
- Construction of buildings: administration/girls' dormitory, gymnasium and completion of school
- Connected campus to city water and sewer lines
- Implemented new programs: driver training, maintenance, baking, painting, upholstery
- Lobbied to increase teacher salaries
- Sold 70 acres of land to city of Devils Lake for construction of junior college (1961)

Smith tenure



- Cooperated with *Minot State University* to provide onsite training for teachers of the deaf
- Captioned Films for the Deaf
- Recommended *Old Main* be razed and new superintendent's house built
- Lobbied to change name from *ND School for the Deaf and Dumb* to *ND School for the Deaf*

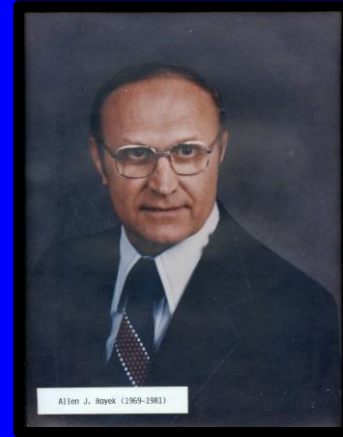


1945-1969 scenes from campus



Superintendent Alan Hayek 1969-1981

Average number of pupils
during Hayek tenure: **101**



Communication:

oral supplemented by use of
sign language and finger spelling

Hayek tenure

- NDSD fully accredited
- Implemented:

Audiology Department
Captioned Video Lending Library
Parent-Infant Program



- Initiated idea of NDSD as *state resource center*
- PL 42-142 *Education for All Handicapped Children Act*
- Media Resource Center-High School and superintendent's house constructed
- North Dakota Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf established
- Land sold for construction of Vocational-Technical Center
- Students enroll in trade classes at Vo-Tech Center
- Jr. Association of the Deaf established at NDSD (1971)
- Students participate in World Games for the Deaf

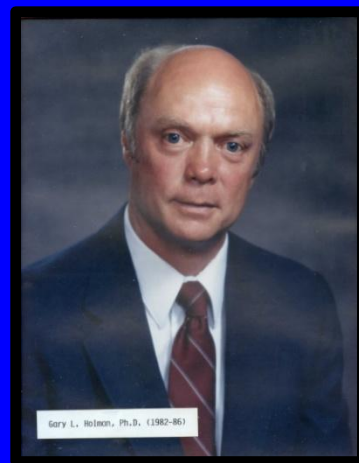
1969-1981 scenes from campus



Superintendent Dr. Gary Holman 1982-1986

Average number of pupils
during Holman tenure: **67**

Communication:



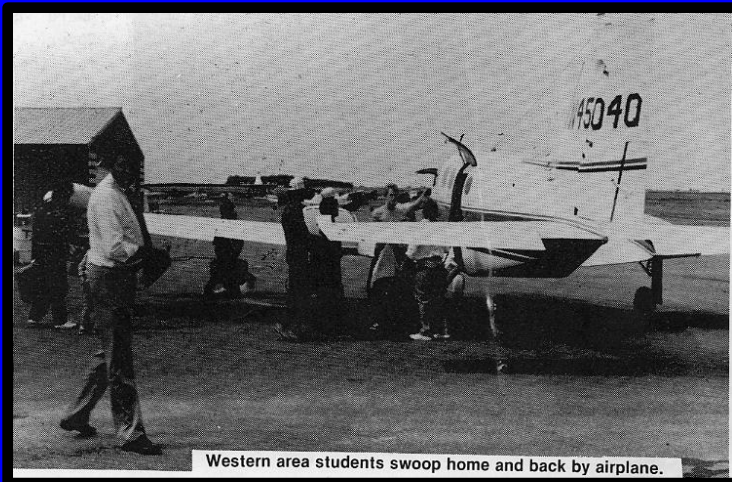
Signing Exact English – signs devised to represent English, accompanied by spoken language, the SEE system provided simultaneous representations of visual and oral English

Holman tenure



- Implemented
 - Psychology Department
 - Close-Up Program
 - Communications Department (interpreters provided for mainstream students)
 - Reverse mainstream programs
 - Weekend flight transportation
 - Sports coops
- Construction of swimming pool
- Pool open to community coops

1982-1986 scenes from campus



Western area students swoop home and back by airplane.



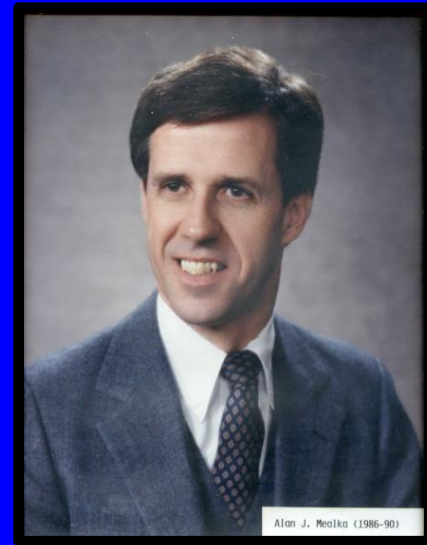
Superintendent Alan Mealka

1986-1990

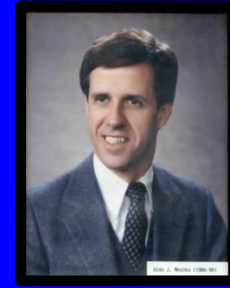
Average number of pupils
during Mealka tenure: **48**

Communication:

Total communication – used
combination of communication
modes including sign language,
finger spelling, speech, speech
reading, amplification and writing



Mealka tenure



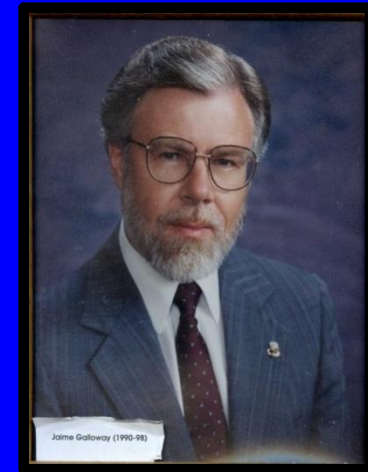
- Implemented
 - Summer camps for deaf and hard of hearing children
 - Family Learning Vacation
 - NDSD Outreach Program (1988)
 - Parent Hotline
 - Volunteer Program
 - NDSD's first promotional video
- Collaborated with special education units to form the *ND Coalition of Service Providers for Hearing-Impaired*
- NDSD *Heritage Center* established
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) enacted

1986-1990 scenes from campus



Superintendent Jaime Galloway 1990-1998

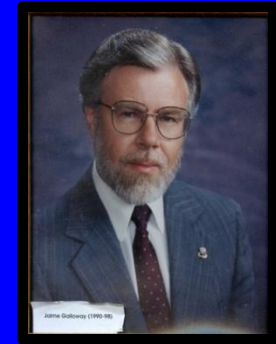
Average number of pupils
during Galloway tenure: **55**



Communication:

bilingual-bicultural - affirmed role of *American Sign Language* as natural language of deaf persons and fostered competency in both English and *American Sign Language*

Galloway tenure



- Celebrated NDSD Centennial (1990)
- Revised NDSD mission statement to include outreach services to deaf and hard of hearing children in North Dakota
- Caption-ready televisions (1993)
- FCC enacts captioning law (1996)
- Internet service
- Telephone relay service
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act reauthorized (direct communication)

1990-1998 scenes from campus



Superintendent Rocklyn Cofer 1998–2005

Average number of pupils
during Cofer tenure: **36**



Communication:

bilingual-bicultural - affirmed role of *American Sign Language* as the natural language of deaf persons and fostered competency in both English and *American Sign Language*

Cofer tenure



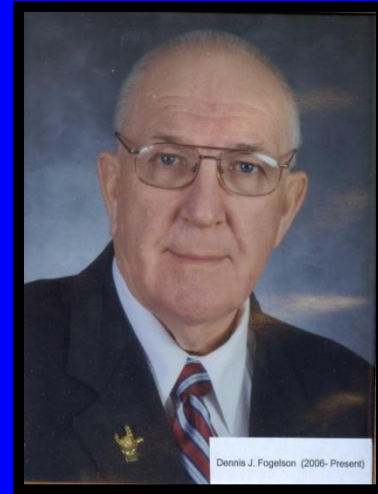
- Hearing screening for infants
- Discontinued Trades program
- ND Interpreter Law passed
(Collaboration with ND Association for the Deaf)
- Implemented ASL & Interpreter Training Program
(Collaboration with Lake Region State College)
- Implemented ND Captioning Center (Collaboration with ND Friends of Deaf Children Foundation)
- Interactive Television Network classes offered
(Collaboration with Lake Region State College)
- ND Deaf/Blind Services housed at NDSD
- Blue Ribbon Task Force established
- Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) amended (2004)
- Down-sized - school building leased to Head Start

1998-2005 scenes from campus



Superintendent Dennis Fogelson 2006-2009

Average number of pupils
during Fogelson tenure: **26**



Communication:

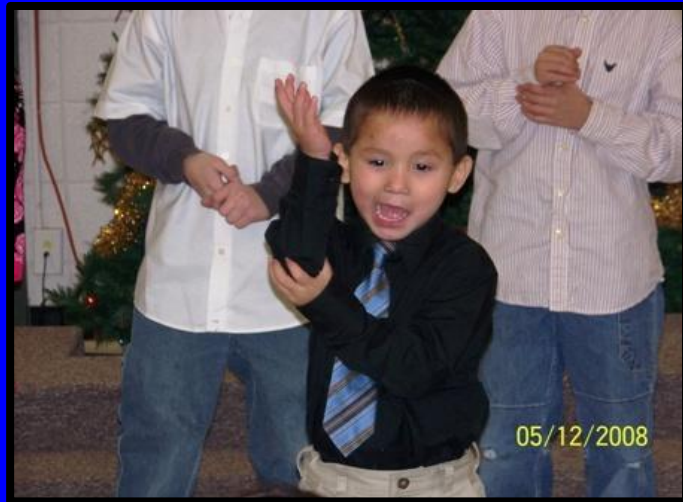
Endorse use of visual communication and promote an environment in which *American Sign Language* and English mutually co-exist – communication must be direct, comprehensible and accessible

Fogelson tenure



- Legislature authorized expansion of services to adults
- Legislature passed Interpreter bill – NDSD delegated to distribute financial reimbursements to state institutions of higher learning for interpreters and real-time captioning costs incurred
- *American Sign Language* approved as vocational course by *ND Department of Career & Technology Education*
- Legislature mandated formation of transition team to review future role of NDSD

2006-2009 scenes from campus



Superintendent Carmen Suminski

2009 – present

Average number of pupils
during Suminski tenure: **23**



Communication:

Endorse use of visual communication and promote an environment in which American Sign Language and English mutually co-exist – communication must be direct, comprehensible and accessible

Suminski tenure in progress



- Installation of elevator (in progress)
- Transition team established to review future role of the North Dakota School for the Deaf

2009 scenes from campus



Times have changed
Demographics have changed
Laws have changed
Educational trends have changed
NDSD has changed

The North Dakota School for the Deaf adapted with changing times and assumed a dual mission:

1. Provide educational and residential services for deaf and hard of hearing children
2. Provide outreach services to deaf and hard of hearing people of all ages

Outreach services
have been an
integral part of NDSD
since 1988

Thousands of individuals
have been served

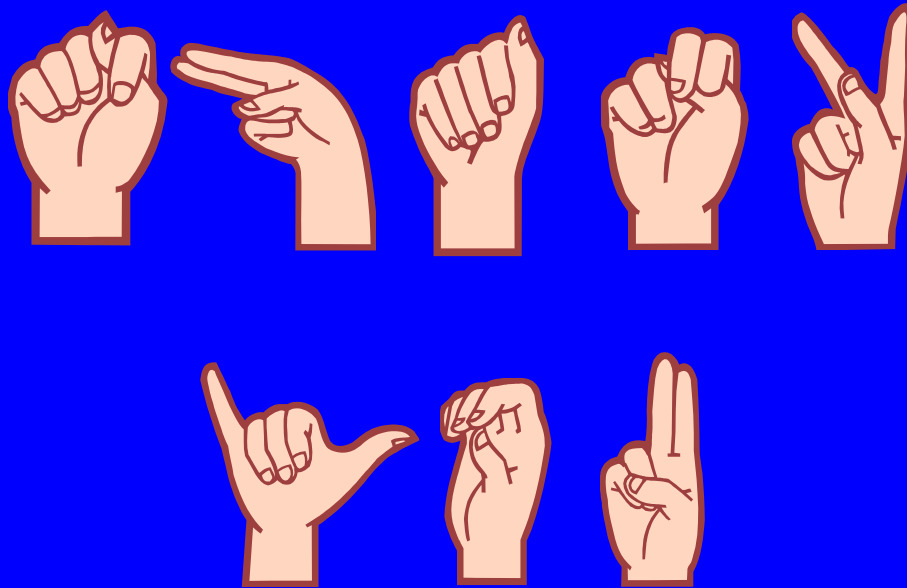
Throughout its long and proud
history, the North Dakota
School for the Deaf has
encountered many challenges
but one thing has remained
constant ...

North Dakota School for the Deaf continues to provide quality programs for deaf and hard of hearing individuals in our state



NDSD has evolved into

**North Dakota's
Educational Resource Center
on
Hearing Loss & Deafness**



Thank you